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September 16, 2020

The Honorable Louis DeJoy  
Postmaster General  
United States Postal Service  
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy,

I write today to urge you to address the potentially deadly U.S. Postal Service (USPS) delays affecting my constituents and Americans who are waiting for the delivery of their life-saving mail-order prescription drugs.

Constituents in my district with chronic conditions such as asthma and diabetes are in desperate need of their medications – which due to the pandemic – are often delivered instead of picked up. I've already heard from dozens of people who have waited weeks for their insulin or asthma medication because of the postal delays. This is simply unacceptable, especially as my home state of California is battling various wildfires – leading to unprecedented unhealthy air quality levels. In my district, the air quality index has reached rates as high as [170](#), considered unhealthy by the Environmental Protection Agency. Constituents with asthma are even more at risk of these air quality levels. This is especially troubling to me since the Central Valley already has one of the worst air quality rates in the country coupled with one of the highest childhood asthma rates in the country, with approximately [550,000 San Joaquin Valley residents](#) having asthma, 105,000 of whom are children. With [one in six](#) children affected by asthma and nearly [ten percent of adults](#) in Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties having diabetes, it is critical my constituents have timely access to their medications.

A recent [Senate report](#) found that many Americans are facing delays in the delivery of their mail-order prescription drugs. The delays have been especially serious this summer, with all of the mail-order pharmacies that rely heavily on USPS for delivery, reporting an increase in average delivery times, ranging from eighteen to thirty-two percent, sometimes delayed by as much as a full week. The delays can have a direct impact on health outcomes. Delivering life-saving drugs impacts everyone from children and seniors to our veterans. In these unprecedented times, it is vital to address the delivery delays to avoid putting the health of Americans in danger.

It is my hope that you will quickly address the delays in mail-order prescription drugs. I look forward to working with you to ensure the timely delivery of much-needed medications to my constituents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Harder". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. The "J" and "H" are capitalized and prominent. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Josh Harder

United States Representative (CA-10)